

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application.

Claims 1-11 and 14-22 are now present in this application. Claims 1-4, 14, 16 and 20-22 are independent. By this Amendment, claims 14 and 16 have been re-written into independent form and claims 2, 3, 14, 16 and 20-22 are amended, and claims 12 and 13 are canceled. No new matter is involved.

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Allowable/Allowed Claims

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication that claims 1, 4-7, 10, 11 and 14-19 are allowable/allowed. Applicant notes, in this regard, that allowable claims 14 and 16 have been re-written in independent form to place them in condition for allowance.

Telephone Interviews

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the courtesies extended by Examiners Fahmy and Andujar during the telephone interviews conducted between them and Mr. Robert J. Webster, Applicant's representative. During the interviews, it was agreed that if claims 2, 3 and 20-22 were amended, as indicated above, that those claims would patentably define over the applied art. Agreement was also reached that if claims 12 and 13 were canceled, that the remaining method claims would continue to be allowable. Examiners Fahmy and Andujar also

agreed that if Applicant filed an Amendment with the approved amendments, that it would be entered and considered on its merits.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 2, 3, 8, 9, 12, 13, and 20-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,448,579 to Lim et al. (hereinafter, "Lim"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

A complete discussion of the Examiner's rejection is set forth in the Office Action, and is not being repeated here.

Initially, Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection is moot with respect to claims 12 and 13, which have been canceled by this Amendment.

In addition to the arguments presented in the Amendment filed on September 8, 2006, which are incorporated by reference herein, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2, 3 and 20-22, as amended, and claims 8 and 9 which depend from claim 3, patentably define over Lim.

Accordingly, the Office Action does not make out a *prima facie* case of unpatentability of the invention recited in claims 2, 3, 8, 9 and 20-22.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection of claims 2, 3, 8, 9, 12, 13 and 20-22 are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejection of claims 2, 3, 8, 9, 12, 13, and 20-22 be withdrawn, and that claims 2, 3, 8, 9

and 20-22 allowed along with already allowed claims 1, 4-7, 10, 11 and 14-19. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

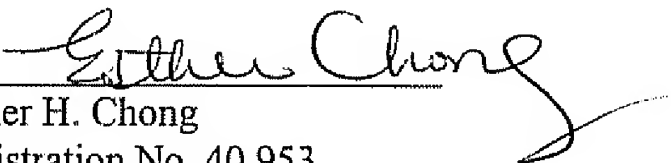
If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone Robert J. Webster, Registration No. 46,472, at (703) 205-8000, in the Washington, D.C. area.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Response is respectfully requested.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 8, 2006

By 
Esther H. Chong
Registration No. 40,953
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Rd., Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

EHC/RJW/cdr 